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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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The Experiment Station.

Nebraska is to essay an experiment both novel and difficult this fall in electing three supreme judges and two regents of the State university, besides district judges and county superintendents, without party nominations or primaries.—World-Herald.

When The Bee said that the election of a democratic governor and legislature meant that Nebraska was to become an experiment station for questionable legislation, it predicted truly. The experiment that is ahead of us by reason of the so-called nonpartisan judiciary bill is not only "novel and difficult," but liable to prove dangerous in the extreme.

We are having a sample here in Omaha right now of what this election may become, with the floodgates wide open for anyone and everyone who aspires to become a member of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners by submitting his name at an election "without party nominations or primaries." The requirement of a petition for judicial candidates signed by 5,000 voters might operate as a brake, but still it is doubtful if this requirement does not set up an unreasonable obstacle for running for office and establish a qualification for holding judicial position not sanctioned by the constitution. If so, the 5,000-name petition will be knocked out.

The World-Herald suggests that the prohibition of party nominations and primaries "will put great power in the hands of the State Bar association" and leave it to the lawyers to name the judges before whom they are to practice. If this is what the new law is intended to do, or the way it works out in practice, it will certainly be a bad law. The judges should represent the whole people and not just the lawyers who want to have a pull in court. There is quite enough favoritism before them now without accentuating it.

Self-preservation is the first law of nature and to protect and safeguard the courts it may become necessary to organize a popular movement to prevent the proposed experiment from wrecking the cornerstone of our free government.

The Sugar Schedule.

The beet and cane sugar interests of the country are uniting to secure favorable action on the sugar schedule in the new tariff bill. The two interests are not competitors for the sufficient reason that we do not produce sugar enough to supply even approximately the home demand. Last year the importations of sugar amounted to 3,371,937,112 pounds, against a domestic production in the same year of beet sugar 967,223,010 pounds and cane sugar 514,320,000 pounds, a total of 1,481,543,010 pounds. In other words, for each pound of sugar produced in the United States two and a half pounds are imported.

It is asserted that the sugar industry cannot be maintained without the aid of a protective duty and as against the argument that protection will not assist in bringing the output up to the point of supplying the needs of the country the development of the beet sugar industry is cited. From the early '90s, when it first gained a foothold in this country, it has grown until the production last year amounted to over 900,000,000 pounds. The protection asked is not only based on the general theory of protection, but on the further one of creating an industry. It has the added claim to recognition that it benefits sections of the country which have few products or industries coming within the scope of the tariff schedule.

The composition of the senate subcommittee which has this schedule under consideration is such as to insure it due consideration, being composed of Burrows of Michigan, Flint of California and Smoot of Utah, all heavy sugar-producing states. Nebraska, with one remaining factory, has an interest in the final disposition of the question.

The beet sugar industry is particularly adverse to sections of the country where general farming is not so profitable, particularly the irrigated sections, the failures in Nebraska being not so much because it did not pay, but because something else paid better.

Breaking Away from Bryan.

Evidence is accumulating that the absolute sway which Bryan has exercised over the democratic party is weakening. The breaking away of Congressman Fitzgerald and his Tammany colleagues is not surprising or perhaps even unexpected in the Bryan camp. New York democrats have never exhibited any love for Bryan, either in conventions or at the polls. But any revolt against his leadership to be effective must come from sections where the democracy can deliver electoral votes with reasonable certainty. It is to the south, therefore, to which his opponents in the north must turn for an effective force to end his sway.

Among the twenty-three who followed Mr. Fitzgerald in his action concerning the house rules were several from the south. Representative Clark of Florida, not one of the twenty-three, in the debate on the tariff bill boldly declared his independence and said he would no longer follow in the populist path of Bryan. Congressmen from Georgia, Tennessee, Louisiana and Virginia have also broken away. Hoke Smith of Georgia, in a recent speech in Buffalo, proclaimed the demand of the south for a new leader. The anti-Bryan sentiment is spreading among democratic leaders, and all that is lacking now to make it a potent force is a man strong enough to rally the dissatisfied ones and weld

them into a compact mass. Talk about Fitzgerald of New York, however, being the man for the purpose is ridiculous both because of his lack of ability as an orator and because of his corporation affiliations depriving him of strength among the rank and file.

To produce results the growing sentiment must center around a leader from some state where there is at least a prospect of democratic success. The politicians of the party are tired of marching every four years to the strains of a funeral dirge and the rank and file of the party, to whom its principles are dear, show signs of being weary of following after false gods, even to the accompaniment of a silver tongue and a pleasing personality.

War on the Drug Habit.

The alarming proportions which the drug habit has attained could not be emphasized more than by the fact the dealers in drugs have themselves seen the necessity of taking steps to curtail it. At a recent meeting of the Pennsylvania branch of the American Pharmaceutical association a resolution was passed setting forth the duty of the profession in this regard and putting the members on record as against the selling of harmful drugs for improper purposes. It was agreed that such drugs should be sold only on the prescription of a physician and that no such prescription should be filled without the order of the physician.

The druggists have it within their power to eradicate the drug evil if they will. The conditions under which harmful drugs are manufactured and sold to the retailer are such as to make it a much simpler problem than the curbing of abnormal appetites for strong drink. The limitations upon the persons who can sell drugs are of a character to preclude the sale of any considerable quantities in a surreptitious manner. Eliminate the unscrupulous and over-greedy druggist and the problem is more than half solved.

Diaz for Another Term.

In response to a delegation of business men of Mexico, Porfirio Diaz has consented to accept the nomination for another term as president of the republic. Though the election does not occur until October, the result is already predetermined, there being scarcely a possibility of even an opposing candidate, much less of a successful competitor.

Next to the people of Mexico the announcement is of interest to the United States. It is an assurance that the era of stability and progress in Mexican affairs is to continue. During the many years Diaz has been the president and ruling spirit in Mexico that country has emerged from the chaos into which practically all the Latin-American countries had lapsed and has become strong enough to assist the United States in the uplift of others less fortunately situated. Its material resources are being developed and some progress, slight though it may be, has been made in raising the masses from the slough of despond into which they had sunk.

Under Diaz's wise leadership, Mexican development will continue with every prospect that when the time inevitably comes for him to lay the burden down Mexico will have reached a point where our next door neighbor will not be a source of worry and possible international complications.

Those cities which own their own water works and are so pleased with them that they would not think of going back to private ownership are all enjoying reasonably low water rates. If Omaha pays two prices for the present water plant and then has to invest upward of \$1,000,000 more for necessary repairs and betterments, when, if ever, would our water consumers get the benefit of lower rates?

A political platform is binding, so we have been told, as much as to what it omits as to what it contains. Did anyone see any 8 o'clock closing plank in any of the numerous platforms running at large in Nebraska last year?

President Baer of the Reading road is conferring with the anthracite coal miners regarding the scale of wages. Can it be possible the Lord has removed him as the sole executor and dictator of his coal estate?

James Patton, the Chicago grain man, is said to have made money at the rate of \$10,000 a minute when he unloaded May wheat the other day. At that rate he will soon be able to own an automobile.

The New York Democratic club, which Bryan addressed last year, did not look his way this year. When asked the reason the president remarked that the club was looking for live ones this time.

A tramp was made sick in Kansas the other day by some bread and jelly given him by a sympathetic woman. He could stand the bread all right, but the jelly was too much of a surprise for his stomach.

The Sackett law still lives by which local officers in Nebraska who fail to enforce any law may be ousted by decree of the state executive, but it lives in a state of suspended animation.

There may be a dispute as to the terms of the deal, but no one will question that the liquor interests delivered the goods to Governor Shallenberger and the democratic ticket last fall.

A Nevada county has been awarded the trick mule offered by Bryan as a prize for the community showing the largest gain in the democratic vote.

Possibly after he has been in Nevada long enough to have acquired a residence he will join the divorce colony and seek a divorce from democracy.

More Men Ignored.

Now that the lull has come in the discussion of the tariff on stockings, mere men rise to humbly inquire what congress proposes to do about socks.

A Shocking Discovery.

A decision of the supreme court has been quoted in the government's brief in the suit to dissolve the Standard Oil company. Such a shock is enough to make John D. Rockefeller forswear the royal game of golf, now that the president has become a devotee of the niblick and putting iron.

New Cry in Politics.

"Retrenchment and reform" is really going to be something better than a campaign cry or a congressional slogan. Economy is again becoming a popular policy, as it has long been a national necessity. The outlook is for a steady progress toward the adoption of a system under which income and outgo may be adjusted to each other with some approach to exactness. This is a promise altogether new to American politics.

Profile Source of Forest Fires.

It is said officially that locomotives do not set off or even 75 per cent of the forest fires, but they do set about 90 per cent of them, and the Forestry commission in New York has notified the railroads that traverse the Adirondacks that from April to November they must use oil-burning locomotives. It was found that the expense of electricity would be prohibitory, and the use of oil will add about \$60,000 a year to the expenses of the railroads. Forest fires, however, are a pretty serious menace to life and property, and the railroads will have no ground of complaint if the states shall take adequate measures for preventing the other 25 per cent of them.

Police Power of States.

The decision of the supreme court that the provisions of the immigration laws designed to suppress the "white slave traffic" are unconstitutional and therefore null and void is another argument for the federal government's being clothed with greater powers for the protection of aliens within the United States. If the rescue of "alien women" is left to the "police powers" of the states, it may be accomplished in some but not in others, according to the zeal, humanity, and energy of the local authorities. The "traffic" is a shameful fact. Congress passed what it deemed appropriate legislation, but the supreme court now says that in so doing congress transcended its powers.

BRYAN'S WAVERING INFLUENCE

Democrats Pass Up Sentiment and Reach for the Goods.

New York Sun.

Our old friend Bryan seems to be receding further and further every day from their own position which he has constructed by newspaper and his chautauque lecture tours depend for their audience. This tariff discussion in congress is playing the very deuce with his control of even the timid heads who for so long have been following Bryan in obedience to the prevailing superstition at home and to the counsels of their own ignorance and irresponsibility; but the prestige of the tariff controversy has changed many things. There was no reason under the old tariff why they should not play the fool to their hearts' content. Their actual interests were safe, and they thought it a good time to speed the baggage; but things are different now. If the system is to be reconstructed and the schedules readjusted some of their interests may be imperiled, who knows? Away then with the unmeaning raptures over Bryan and let us get to business! So the home folks here and there sent out a frugal and hard-fisted admonition, and here and there we find old time Bryan followers returning to their covers and definitely ignoring the Peers.

It was very well in 1907 to dally with the Nebraska prophet and to proclaim his heavenly commission. The long-haired children of the pines woods could be thrilled and tamed by no other message. His name extorted a shriek from every audience, and eloquence rose easily to the time honored bait. Now there is no time for these thrice told tales. The southern fight was as heroically sealed in Georgia or Louisiana as the northern fight was in Pennsylvania. So business usurps the place of sentiment and acquisition puts on the livery of a common cause.

The ferment has just begun to work, and it is unlikely now to be arrested. The final result may be the elimination of this and peradventure other mountebanks from the equation of the people's re-established sanity.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

The Minnesota legislature has passed a bill giving the right to institute commission wherever a majority of voters so declare.

Colonel Henry Waterson exhibits his old-time vigor by taking a fall out of "The Money Devil" in a three-column paragraph in the Courier-Journal.

South Dakota is to build a new state house at a cost of \$1,000,000, and has sent out a commission looking up designs. Harrisburg, Pa., will be raised up.

Former Vice President Fairbanks is looking up as a possible American ambassador to the court of St. James. He qualifies mentally and financially.

Congressman Hobson's views on tariff revision are expressed in this remark. "While I am a democrat from surface to core, I am a protectionist from top to bottom."

Six million words have been split over the tariff in the house of representatives. The conservation will begin in earnest when the senate gets a half-Nelson on the measure.

The mayor of Mason City, Ia., has tendered the post of chief of police to a local preacher, who has craved frequently for "a clean administration." The idea is to have the preacher fit the deeds to his words.

Most legislatures pause frequently for breath when acting on appropriation bills carrying a million or so. Pennsylvania's lavish solons worked overtime shoveling out the coin for all sorts of things, running the aggregate at least \$15,000,000 over the state's revenue. Very properly this happened in a building which looked like the state treasury for \$4,000,000.

Some seven years ago Boston purchased 100 acres of land for \$25,000 on the recommendation of militia officers. It was intended for use as a rifle range. Recently a city commission looked over the land and found it a vista of swamp and scrub shrubbery, worth about \$1,000. It is fair to say that Mr. Maybray of Council Bluffs and Little Rock did not have Boston on his circuit.

In Other Lands

Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Near and Far Nations of the Earth.

The recent settlement of the Balkan controversy, whereby Austria's land grab is confirmed and Serbia disarmed, makes for the peace of central Europe about as effective as claim jumpers promote the good will of a western community. Vigilance and armed readiness alone maintain the advantage. Russian was not prepared to defend the integrity of the states which regarded the empire as the protector of the Slavs. Germany and Austria knew the moment when annexation was possible without the risk of war. Before these united powers, with mighty armies ready to march and war chests well filled, Russia wisely yielded. With a shattered military organization, an army exhausted and dispirited by a recent disastrous war, resistance to the demands of the Dreihund would have been folly. The humiliation of the Czar's government at home is widespread and openly manifested. In the higher circles it takes the form of social ostracism, and is evidenced with an intensity bordering on insult to officials directly and indirectly responsible. It is more than a temporary ebullition of public temper. It carries a deep and lasting wound to national pride, which time slowly heals.

The spirit of conciliation shown by the French ministry in dealing with the striking state employees of the postal and telegraph departments is regarded by the leaders as a surrender of the government to organized labor. This is the conviction borne in upon officials of events in France by the exultant and defiant attitude of the radical laborers. A few days after the ministry conceded the principal demands of the strikers, Paris was placarded with a labor manifesto insulting the government, and a like spirit runs through the public speeches of the agitators. Premier Clemenceau is roundly criticized for allowing "unreasonable utterances" to pass unheeded. The outward show of indifference in reality may be a mask for preparations to strike when and where the blow is most effective. Such a course would be characteristic. The extremists may be allowed to run their course up to the limit. When that point is reached, in the opinion of the government, the agitators may discover, as did the vineyard strikers, that the gloved hand of the premier is a powerful "mailed fist."

Winston S. Churchill, author and parliamentarian and an exemplar of the strenuous life in England, recently made a trip through much of the country of central Africa, where Theodore Roosevelt and party will hunt, and his remarks on the climate will interest friends of the ex-president. "Ten grains of quinine a day for each person" was the dose which helped to pull the party through. Mr. Churchill speaks admiringly of the glorious beauties of the Uganda region and says: "Every white man traveling through that country seems to feel a sense of undimmed oppression. The air is soft and cool, yet the contrast between appearance and reality is striking, for this enchanted land is cursed with malarial attributes. A cut will not heal, a scratch festers. In the third year of residence even a small wound becomes a running sore. One day a man feels perfectly well, the next, for no apparent cause, he is prostrate with malaria of a peculiarly persistent kind, turning often in the third or fourth attack to blackwater fever. To the wise hunter of exotics, the conditions suggest the need of concluding the business on hand at the earliest moment and hiking over the shortest route to civilization."

The German naval program, which has become the nightmare of England, was formulated by Admiral von Tirpitz in a recent debate in the House of Commons. Earl Percy, in an attack on the government for its alleged failure to enforce the laws in Ireland, brought a sharp retort from John Redmond, the Irish leader. He cited official statistics showing that in the years 1904-8 there were 89 cases of murder in England, while during the same period there were but thirty-seven murders in Ireland. In London alone there were, during this period, ninety-two murders and almost 2,000 attempted murders, while the total number of indictable cases in Ireland were 9,000, against 14,654 in England. Mr. Redmond further showed that while there had been a considerable increase in serious crimes in England in the last twenty years, there had been a steady diminution of crime in Ireland during the same period. In the light of these statistics attempts to defame Ireland present a sorry spectacle.

The tendency of English politicians to magnify the Irish mole and ignore the beam in their eyes was illustrated in a recent debate in the House of Commons. Earl Percy, in an attack on the government for its alleged failure to enforce the laws in Ireland, brought a sharp retort from John Redmond, the Irish leader. He cited official statistics showing that in the years 1904-8 there were 89 cases of murder in England, while during the same period there were but thirty-seven murders in Ireland. In London alone there were, during this period, ninety-two murders and almost 2,000 attempted murders, while the total number of indictable cases in Ireland were 9,000, against 14,654 in England. Mr. Redmond further showed that while there had been a considerable increase in serious crimes in England in the last twenty years, there had been a steady diminution of crime in Ireland during the same period. In the light of these statistics attempts to defame Ireland present a sorry spectacle.

In an official circular on the opium traffic, Sir Frederick Lugard, governor of Hong Kong, recapitulates the efforts being made to restrict the business and the obstacles encountered. Most effective of the means employed is the limitation of the area of opium cultivation. To make this reduction in cultivation effective the quantity to be grown from the country is to be reduced annually, and sale to women and children prohibited. The chief obstacle to the return is the difficulty of suppressing smuggling. The price of opium in Hong Kong is double that of China, consequently the Chinese smuggler turns a trick as smoothly as Bret Hart's creation. Governor Lugard estimates that 14,000 persons frequent Hong Kong's opium joints annually, and argues that moderation must be exercised in suppressing the evil.

The active life of a modern warship ranges from ten to fifteen years. Every year brings some radical change in construction, armament and speed. The ships of tomorrow outclass those of today, forcing the ships of yesterday backward to the junk pile. Ten of Britain's warships, lords of the sea twenty-five years ago, are soon to be sold for scrap iron. They were once first class battleships of 10,000 tons, one of them the Collingwood, which rammed and sunk the Victoria in 1892. Each cost about \$2,500,000, and were unsurpassed in their day. But they are hopelessly out of date now and not worth for fighting purposes the price of powder to blow them out of the water.

A Constantinople correspondent of a Berlin paper reports that the British-American Tobacco company has made an

Royal Baking Powder

Absolutely Pure

Economizes flour, butter and eggs; makes the biscuit, cake and pastry more appetizing, nutritious and wholesome.

Royal is the Only Baking Powder Made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar

It Has No Substitute